Montgomery County Natural Heritage Inventory Site Report

Dutch John Creek Area

Site Significance: Regional 290 acres Ouadrangle: Badin

Ownership: Private and U.S.F.S. - Uwharrie National Forest

Protection Status: none on private property; no special designation on Uwharrie National Forest

property

Significant Factors:

1. The Dutch John Creek Area supports a roadside population of <u>Cirsium carolinianum</u> (Carolina thistle) which has a North Carolina Status of Candidate.

- 2. Scattered individuals of <u>Amorpha schwerinii</u> (Piedmont indigo-bush) occur on the Uwharrie National Forest property. This rare shrub has a North Carolina Status of Significantly Rare.
- 3. A large, unfragmented forest buffers Dutch John Creek and provides habitat for interior forest animals.
- 4. The steep, wooded bluffs that occur on Uwharrie National Forest and private property is directly across the lake from Morrow Mountain State Park. These bluffs provide a scenic vista when viewed from the state park.

Landscape Relationships:

The Dutch John Creek Area occurs north of the confluence of the Uwharrie and Yadkin Rivers, where the Yadkin River becomes the Pee Dee River. The Dutch John Creek watershed occurs predominately in the Uwharrie National Forest and within the Badin Mafic Macrosite. It flows past several high elevation mountains, including Falls Mountain (795 feet) and Shingle Trap Mountain (901 feet).

Numerous sites occur in close vicinity to the Dutch John Creek Area. Portions of the Uwharrie River Corridor occur to the northeast, including Shingle Trap and Daniel Mountains. The shoreline of Dutch John Creek Area is a portion of the Yadkin/Pee Dee Bald Eagle Forging Habitat identified by the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program. Three other sites occur upstream along the Yadkin River. Tuckertown Swamp Forest occurs on the shores of Badin Lake and is disjunct from the Badin Mafic Macrosite. Yadkin River Scour Banks occurs at the base of the Badin or Narrows Dam. Falls Dam Slopes occurs about one half mile upstream on the Yadkin River. A large block of Uwharrie National Forest borders Dutch John Creek Area to the east, north and northwest and is included in